UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8



1595 Wynkoop Street
DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
http://www.epa.gov/region08
April 13, 2009

Ref: 8P-W-TF

Honorable Chairman Tribal Executive Board [Address] [Address]

> Re: Region 8 Tribal Set-Aside Drinking Water Construction Grants Program FY09 Funding

Dear Chairman:

This letter is to announce availability of funds for FY09 for EPA's Tribal Set-Aside (TSA) Construction Grants Program under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The funding is for Tribal drinking water infrastructure needs. For FY 2009, the EPA Region 8 allocation is \$1.3 million to fund improvements to Tribal drinking water systems. These funds are in addition to funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Enclosed are: 1) the Region 8 Tribal Set-Aside Drinking Water Construction Grant Program Guidelines, which include the Project Proposal Form in Appendix B and instructions in Section 7; 2) Tribal Set-Aside Program Final Guidelines; and 3) Capacity Assessment and Planning Worksheets for Public Water Systems. Drinking water security issues may be considered in preparing project proposals. Any security needs must compete with other identified needs for funding. According to the SDWA, funding must be used to address the most significant threats to public health associated with public water systems that serve Indian tribes.

Please complete the Project Proposal Form, Feasibility Study Requirements, Capacity Assessments and Planning Workshops for Public Water Systems, along with supporting documentation for each proposed project. Project proposals are limited to ten (10) pages. Your proposal and other documentation must be post marked by May 31, 2009. Proposals post marked after May 31, 2009, will not be considered for funding. Please submit your proposal to:

Minnie Adams, TSA Program Coordinator (8P-W-TF)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

If you submitted a proposal that was previously denied funding, and are interested in having it re-considered this year, please notify us and update the information in that proposal as

needed. Should you have any questions, please call me at 303-312-6390, or have your staff contact Minnie Adams, TSA Program Coordinator, at 303-312-6624, via email: adams.minnie@epa.gov, or by fax at 303-312-6131.

Sincerely,

Sadie Hoskie, Director Water Program

Enclosures (3)

- 1) The Region 8 Tribal Set-Aside Drinking Water Construction Grant Program Guidelines
- 2) Tribal Set-Aside Program Final Guidelines
- 3) Capacity Assessment and Planning Worksheets for Public Water Systems